

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A disk drive controller executing logic including:  
establishing an active region on a disk in a disk drive associated with the  
controller, the active region corresponding to a region of the disk wherein effects of  
mechanical shock to the disk drive during read and/or write operations are mitigated  
5 compared to regions on the disk other than the active region; and  
storing data in the active region.

2. The controller of Claim 1, wherein the logic further comprises:  
moving data from the active region to an archive region based on at least one  
10 of: recency of last access of the data, whether a time for archiving has occurred, and  
whether a motion sensing threshold has been reached.

3. The controller of Claim 1, wherein the active region is at least one of: an outer  
annular region of the disk, and an inner annular region of the disk.

4. The controller of Claim 2, wherein data is moved from the archive region to  
15 the active region if the data previously has been accessed within a predetermined period.

5. The controller of Claim 1, wherein the active region is defined at least in part  
by a motion limiting element on the drive.

6. The controller of Claim 2, wherein data is moved from the archive region to the active region only in the absence of motion of the disk drive below a threshold.

7. A hard disk drive, comprising:

means for establishing an active region on the disk, the active region  
corresponding to a region where the disk drive is protected from the effects of  
mechanical shock as compared to other regions of the disk drive; and  
means for writing data to the active region.

8. The hard disk drive of Claim 7, wherein the means for writing writes data from the archive region to the active region based on frequency and/or recency of access of the data.

9. The hard disk drive of Claim 7, further comprising:

means for moving data from the active region to an archive region based on at least one of: recency of last access of the data, whether a time for archiving has occurred, and whether a motion sensing threshold has been reached.

10. The hard disk drive of Claim 7, wherein the active region is an outer annular region of the disk.

11. The hard disk drive of Claim 9, wherein data is moved from the archive region to the active region if the data previously has been accessed within a predetermined period.

12. The disk drive of Claim 7, wherein the active region is defined at least in part by a motion limiting element on the drive.

13. A hard disk drive, comprising:  
at least one disk defining an active region and an archive region;  
at least one controller controlling read and write operations on the disk; and  
at least one motion limiting element defining the active region.

14. The hard disk drive of Claim 13, wherein the active region corresponds to a region of the disk wherein effects of mechanical shock to the disk drive during read and/or write operations are mitigated compared to the archive region.

15. The hard disk drive of Claim 13, wherein the controller stores data in the active region based on frequency and/or recency of access of the data.

16. The hard disk drive of Claim 13, wherein the controller moves data from the active region to the archive region based on at least one of: recency of last access of the data, whether a time for archiving has occurred, and whether a motion sensing threshold has been reached.

17. The hard disk drive of Claim 13, wherein the active region is at least one of:  
an outer annular region of the disk, and an inner annular region of the disk.

18. The hard disk drive of Claim 13, wherein data is moved from the archive  
region to the active region if the data has been accessed within a predetermined period.